



Maryland Department of Planning

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December 12, 2012

James M. Raley, Chairman  
Board of Garrett County Commissioners  
203 South Fourth Street  
Courthouse, Room 207  
Oakland, MD 21550

Dear Chairman Raley,

RE: MDP's review of adopted tier maps; No comments

Thank you for providing the Department of Planning with a copy of the official Garrett County Tier Map adopted by the Board of Garrett County Commissioners on December 4, 2012. This action establishes growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 for Garrett County.

The Act allows the Department to comment on mapped growth tiers when the Department determines that the growth tiers do not meet the criteria established by the Act.

The Maryland Department of Planning is pleased to advise you that the official Garrett County Tier Map adopted by the Board of Garrett County Commissioners satisfies the criteria for designation of growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012. The Department therefore has no comments on the adopted map.

Please be advised that the growth tiers shall be incorporated into the County's comprehensive plan or an element of the plan when the County conducts its six year review of the plan. If the growth tiers are not incorporated into the comprehensive plan or an element of the plan during that 6-year review, Senate Bill 236 provides that the growth tiers may not be considered as adopted and the restrictions on major subdivisions outside sewer areas shall apply.

Municipalities within Garrett County may be submitting growth tier maps to the Department. To date, we have received a letter (dated November 7, 2012) from Loch Lynn Heights that adopts the County's tier designations for the town. Should there be any conflicts between other

Martin O'Malley, Governor  
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, Secretary  
Matthew J. Power, Deputy Secretary

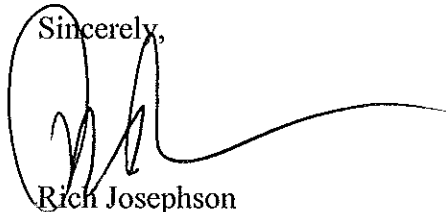
James M. Raley, Chairman  
Board of Garrett County Commissioners  
December 12, 2012  
Page 2

municipalities' mapping and that of the County, the Act provides a process for resolution. We do not anticipate that such maps would be in conflict with the criteria under the Act or with the County's adopted map.

We would like to recognize the County's staff for their outstanding work in preparing the County's growth tier map.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rich Josephson', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Rich Josephson  
Director of Planning Services

cc: Richard Hall, Secretary, MDP  
Jay Sakai, Director, Water Management Administration, MDE  
Matt Power, Deputy Secretary, MDP  
Jenny King, Chief-of-Staff, MDP  
Peter Conrad, Director, Local Planning Assistance, MDP  
Jason Dubow, Director, Environmental Planning, MDP  
Stephanie Martins, Analysis Coordinator, MDP  
Bill Atkinson, Director, Western Maryland Regional Office, MDP